UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Consumer and Marketing Service CONSUMER FOOD PROGRAMS Washington, D. C. 20250

# Purchasing of Domestic Foods

### I PURPOSE

This Instruction sets forth the Department's policy on the purchase of agricultural products and other food for use in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, and the Special Food Service Program for Children.

### II GENERAL

One of the primary objectives of the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts is "to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other food." Because of the nature of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, and the Special Food Service Program for Children and their impact on the domestic food market, the Department believes that program schools and institutions should be encouraged to purchase domestic items to the maximum extent practicable.

# III POLICY

- A All foods procured by the Department under the authority of Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act, as emended; Section 32 (surplus removal) of the Act of August 24, 1935, as amended; and Section 416 (price support) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended; and which are distributed to eligible schools, are domestically produced.
- B All agencies and schools that are associated with child feeding programs authorized by the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act are encouraged to cooperate fully in promoting the consumption of domestically produced agricultural commodities, fish, and other foods. The State Educational Agencies and all program schools and institutions are requested to abide by this policy to the maximum extent possible as a means of fulfilling the Congressional intent of the Acts in assisting the Nation's economy, and in promoting the market-lag of American produced foods.

# IV APPLICATION

- A The State Educational Agencies shall encourage program sponsors under their jurisdiction to buy domestically produced food and agricultural products rather than those of foreign origin,
- B All program sponsors should purchase domestic food items to the extent practicable, in order to promote the increased consumption of domestically produced agricultural products.

# V EFFECTIVE DATE AND CANCELLATION

This Instruction is effective upon receipt. It supersedes SL Memorandum 1-1 dated July 21, 1964, Purchasing of Non-domestic Foods.

Deputy Administrator

Consumer Food Programs, C&MS